

Date

Dr. Stephany Hillman
1817 Harvest Drive
Houma, Louisiana 70360

Re: Ethics Board Docket No. 2016-674

Dear Dr. Hillman:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its August 19, 2016 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion as to whether you may provide psychological evaluations and consultative opinions for the South Central LA Human Services Authority's Social Security Disability Determination Services Program in your private practice when this is a service you provide as an employee of the South Central LA Human Services Authority. You stated these services would be provided outside of your normal work schedule.

You also requested an advisory opinion as to the application of the post employment restrictions if you were to provide these services following the termination of your employment with the South Central LA Human Services Authority.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit you from providing psychological evaluations and consultative opinions for the South Central LA Human Services Authority's Social Security Disability Determination Services Program in your private practice when this is a service you provide as an employee of the South Central LA Human Services Authority. **La. R.S. 42:111C(1)(a)** prohibits a public servant from receiving any thing of economic value for any service, the subject matter of which is devoted substantially to the responsibilities, programs, or operations of the agency of the public servant and in which the public servant has participated.

Further, the Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit you, for a period of two years following the termination of your employment, from assisting patients in transactions involving the South Central LA Human Services Authority's Social Security Disability Determination Services Program and in which you participated while employed with the South Central LA Human Services Authority. **La. R.S. 42:1121B** provides no former public employee shall, for a period of two years following the termination of his public employment, assist another person, for compensation, in a transaction, or in an appearance in connection with a transaction in which such former public employee participated at any time during his public employment and involving the governmental entity by which he was formerly employed,

Page 2

Date

Dr. Stephany Hillman

Ethics Board Docket No. 2016-674

or for a period of two years following the termination of his public employment, render, any service which such former public employee had rendered to the agency during the term of his public employment on a contractual basis, regardless of the parties to the contract, to, for, or on behalf of the agency with which he was formerly employed. If you will be providing psychological evaluations and consultative opinions for new patients, which you did not provide services to while employed with the South Central LA Human Services Authority, then you would not be prohibited from providing services to those patients under La. R.S. 42:1121B.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts as presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or as to laws other than the Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (800) 842-6630 or (225) 219-5600.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Tracy M. Barker
For the Board